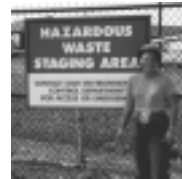


US EPA & The ENVIRONMENTAL CAREERS ORGANIZATION

environmental protection intern program





It is essential for us, as environmental leaders and professionals, to ensure the quality and diversity of future environmental professionals by participating in the development of the next generation of engineers, scientists, policy makers, legal professionals and managers. One of the best ways to do this is through training experience and community involvement.

Since 1992, the Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ) has had a successful partnership with the ECO in "Furthering Environmental Careers" by allowing students to experience EPA's myriad activities as a regulatory agency through on-the-job training and by creating a diverse environmental workforce. The Associates have worked in various offices nationwide and have been involved in a variety of tasks.

The OEJ is committed to furthering the environmental careers of ECO Associates. Each year the OEJ has at least two interns working in the immediate office and provides funds for interns to work in the EPA Regional Offices. Because of the success of the Agency-wide program, the OEJ developed a similar program to partner with Community Organizations. This program allows students to work directly in Community Organizations, and experience environmental issues at a grassroots level. This summer, the OEJ will fund 30 Associates to participate in the Summer 2002 Intern Program for Community Organizations.

I look forward to continuing to work with ECO in developing environmental professionals for the future.

Barry Hill
Director
Office of Environmental Justice
US Environmental Protection Agency

the next generation • diversity • hands on • mentor • energy • future leaders • training • experience • opportunity

The Partnership



The Environmental Careers Organization and the US Environmental Protection Agency have a long history of successful collaboration dating back to 1985. Through this partnership, ECO and the EPA have created training and research internships for college students giving them the opportunity to gain practical, real world work experience. These internships are funded and hosted by the EPA headquarters, regional offices and laboratories across the country.

Since 1992, more than 1,600 college students have participated in the program doing everything from laboratory research and field work to web design and community outreach. Over 50% of these students were Native Americans, Hispanic, African, Asian and other minorities.

The objective of the program is to provide training and research opportunities for students interested in public or private sector careers in environmental protection that would increase the number and diversity of skilled professionals and managers in the environmental arena.



The Organization



The Environmental Careers Organization (ECO) is a national nonprofit organization with 29 years of experience in the recruitment and placement of environmental interns at government agencies, nonprofit organizations and corporations. ECO is one of the largest, oldest and best-known environmental career training programs in the United States.



The Benefits

- As a nationally recognized organization, ECO is able to identify **strong, qualified and enthusiastic candidates** for EPA designed internship opportunities
- An **efficient and easy process** allows EPA offices to sponsor an intern in a very short period of time.
- **ECO's services and support** enable EPA offices and interns to focus on the internship projects.
- ECO offers your associate career service including **publications, seminars and workshops, a national conference and individual support.**
- Together, we create an opportunity to increase the number and **diversity of skilled environmental professionals** who are familiar with the policies, sciences and technologies of EPA.

The Opportunities

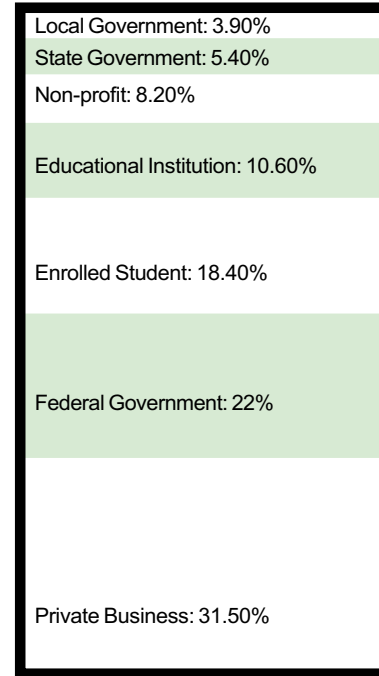


An ECO internship at the EPA allows a student a first-hand look at environmental work being done on the federal level. Project Advisors gain the **enthusiasm and energy** of students eager to put their classroom knowledge to work.

ECO associates are available **part-time or full-time** to train on any part of EPA activity. Whether it is a project focused on policy development, outreach, research or site testing – it is an experience that is a solid stepping stone for a future environmental career.

A sample of past projects include:

- Air and Water Quality
- Urban Planning
- International Activities
- Environmental Justice
- GIS Mapping
- Superfund



Where are EPA/ECO Associates today?

The Project Advisors



“We see the ECO intern program as a way to cultivate a new generation of environmental leaders for EPA and other organizations. The individuals in the program come in ready to learn, ready to contribute, and ready to make a difference on a daily basis. That is what we are looking for.”

Charles Franklin
Chief Communication
Services Branch
Office of Pesticide
Programs
Washington, DC



ECO is one of the best internship programs I've worked with during my career with the government - 32 years! The program is efficient, user-friendly and committed to providing a dynamic learning experience for the interns. In my opinion, there is no better way to expose college students to the multi-faceted nature of the environmental field.

Doris Maxwell
Management Analyst
Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards
Research Triangle Park, NC

The Associates



ECO associates represent a wide range of academic disciplines, levels and backgrounds. Every student – **from undergraduate to doctoral** – will benefit from the hands-on experience that an ECO internship offers.

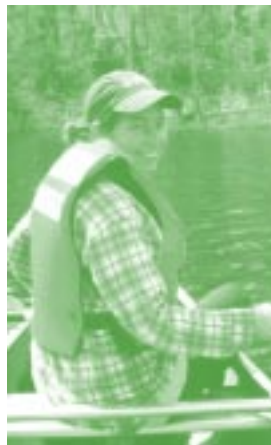
Past interns have valued the **on-the-job training, mentoring and exposure** to new fields that their time at the EPA provided.

Eligibility Requirements

- Applicants must be citizens of the US, its territories, or possessions, or lawfully admitted to the US for permanent residence.
- Applicants must be current students or will be returning to a degree program within 9 months of starting the internship.

Diversity Initiative

ECO's Diversity Initiative addresses the critical need to increase multicultural diversity in the environmental field. Last year nearly 40% of our total placements were members of underrepresented groups, making us one of the nation's leaders in **diversifying the environmental field**.



"This summer has given me the opportunity to learn more about the work the EPA does and the types of research and opportunities it has, to live on my own, to travel and explore different cities and areas, and to meet new people and build my network... I believe that this program is very beneficial to students who do not know what fields are open and how to pursue them."

Mara Banks
ECO Associate
EPA Office of Research and Development, Cincinnati
Advisor: Dr. Armah Delacruz



The Recruitment



ECO has a long track record of proven success in recruiting and matching candidates with environmental projects.

Once EPA offices submit a project description, ECO will advertise the opportunity using some or all of the following resources:

- ECO's nationally recognized website
- Websites of professional organizations and diverse organizations
- Culturally diverse academic institutions
- List Serves
- Campus career centers
- Academic departments directly related to the project needs



ECO will recruit specifically for your position's needs.

collaboration • careers • exposure • network • skills • inspiration • support • perspective • enthusiasm • success

The Cost



EPA offices sponsor interns by committing EPA funds into the Cooperative Agreements. ECO projects can be supported by EPA extramural funds for grants or contracts, as well as funds from the CERCLA appropriation for Superfund research.

The total cost for each internship varies depending on stipend rate and length.

- **Undergraduates: \$400-\$600 per week.**

We generally go with \$400 to \$500 per week. For candidates with superior academic standard (top 1/3, or 2.9/4 GPA overall, or 3.5/4 GPA in major), the stipend can go up to \$600 weekly

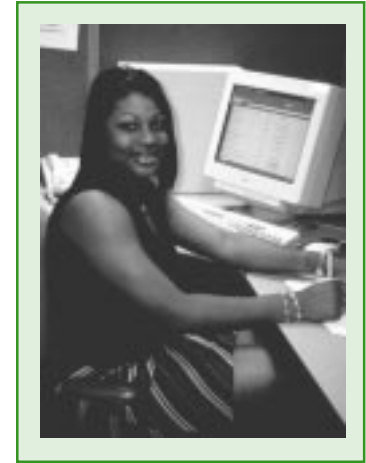
- **Graduates: \$500-\$750 per week.**

We generally go with \$500 to \$600 per week. For candidates completed 60 hours graduate level with superior academic standard (top 1/3, or 2.9/4 GPA overall, or 3.5/4 GPA in major) or completed Masters or law degree and accepted into PhD or LLM program, the stipend can go up to \$750 weekly

The Process



- ❑ Create a project description by completing the Intern Training or Research Activity Form (ITRAF) and sending it back to ECO.
- ❑ Once the ITRAF is reviewed by ECO, we will send you a budget sheet detailing the costs of your project. At this point, recruiting can start.
- ❑ ECO will recruit for your project for approximately 2 weeks. Qualified candidates will be sent to you for review. You should advise ECO of your top choices and ECO will make the official offer.
- ❑ Send completed EPA funding paperwork to Renee Goins at EPA, Office of Environmental Justice. Once ECO receives funding approval, the project advisor will be notified and the intern can start the project.



For more information, please contact:

Jing Yang, jyang@eco.org, tel. 617-426-4783, ext. 129, fax: 617-426-8159 or

Renee Goins, goins.renee@epa.gov, tel. 202-564-2598, fax: 202-501-1106.



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